

FEBRUARY 2 GROUNDHOG DAY



Does Punxsutawney Phil get it right?

February 1887

March 1887

FIRST FORECAST

Saw Shadow

Predicted 6 more weeks of winter The Northeast, Great Lakes region, and West saw temperatures well below normal while the Southeast and Gulf states saw temperatures well above normal.

The Northeast, Great Lakes region, Ohio Valley, and Southeast saw temperatures well below normal while areas west of the Mississippi River valley saw temperatures above normal.

Source: Monthly Weather Review forms, February and March 1887

In the past 27 years, Phil has gotten it right less than 45% of the time.



Punxsutawney Phil versus the U.S. National Temperature 2005–2014

SHADOW	FEBRUARY TEMPERATURE DEPARTURE	MARCH TEMPERATURE DEPARTURE
Yes		Slightly Below
No		Slightly Below
Yes	Above	Above
No	Slightly Below	Above
Yes	Below	Above
Yes	Above	Above
Yes	Slightly Above	Slightly Above
No	Below	Above
Yes	Above	Above
Yes	Above	(Slightly Above)
	No Yes No Yes Yes Yes No Yes No Yes	TEMPERATURE DEPARTURE Yes Below No Slightly Above Yes Above Slightly Below Yes Below Yes Above Yes Slightly Above No Below No Below

Source: www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/



PREDICTED EARLY SPRING



10 times no record

PREDICTED MORE WINTER

102 times